



**BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF DOLORES
COUNTY, COLORADO**
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970-677-2383

May 12, 2020

Jared Polis, Governor
State Capitol Bldg
200 E. Colfax Ave., Rm. 136
Denver, CO 80203

cc:

Sent via email to:
jill.hunsakerryan@state.co.us Jill
Hunsacker Ryan
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530

RE: Dolores County Reopening Plan

Dear Governor Polis:

To date, Dolores County has had no known positive case of COVID-19.

Dolores County Public Health Department Director Mary Randolph, has worked diligently throughout this crisis, coordinating with our FQHC Dove Creek Integrated Healthcare where our Medical Officer works, and Hospitals in neighboring counties and states (Southwest Memorial Hospital) in Cortez Colorado and (San Juan Hospital) in Monticello Utah to be proactive in managing the potential threat of spread of COVID- 19 in the event of an outbreak. Both hospitals have established emergency testing and detailed management strategies and plans, which can be utilized in the event of an outbreak.

Dolores County is a small county, committed to caring for each other.

The Board of County Commissioners for Dolores County firmly believes it makes sense to incrementally loosen restrictions on the restaurants of our community.

Ms. Randolph, along with our health partners throughout the community have developed the strategy represented in the document attached hereto:

1. Dolores County Suppression Plan.

Our public health team will still review and recommend social behaviors, events, types of business that may reopen, and travel into and around the county to control disease transmission. Additionally, review often, the hospital capacity of both Southwest Memorial Hospital in Cortez and San Juan County Hospital in Monticello, Utah, remains adequate to address COVID-19 cases as well as other medical issues in the County.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our email address is: dcdolocnty@fone.net


Julie R. Kibel
County Commissioner


Steve Garchar
County Commissioner


Floyd Cook
County Commissioner



Dolores County Department of Public Health
COVID-19 Suppression Plan

CONDITIONS FOR LIFTING RESTRICTIONS

- Dolores County has not had any positive COVID-19 tests at this time.
- We do have testing capability in our County at this time with minimal specimen collection kits. We do not have a hospital in our county of approximately 2000 residents. Our Federally Qualified Health Clinic located in Dove Creek, which is Dove Creek Integrated Healthcare has agreed to do the testing in our county.
- Dolores County Public Health is a single nurse agency and does have a PRN public health nurse hired if needed for contract testing and tracing. Dolores County Public Health on its own does not have adequate PPE at this time for an outbreak.
- Southwest Memorial Hospital in Cortez Colorado, which is 35 miles to our south has 4 ICU beds, 16 Med Surge Beds, 7 negative Pressure rooms included in the 53 other rooms, 5 ventilators, and 35 convalescent beds. They maintain PPE stock to a community-wide outbreak spanning over an 8-week period. They do have testing capability and have been conducting drive through testing and also have the new Abbott machine testing.
- San Juan Hospital is 22 miles to our west in Monticello Utah has 2 ventilators and stated that they do not keep patients that are very ill and do fly them out to other hospitals. They do have testing capability which in most cases has a turnaround time of 2 days.
- Our county to the south, Montezuma County presently at this date has had 24 positive cases and 2 deaths from COVID-19.
- Dolores County Public Health has participated in the development of community specific outbreak plans, regional medical surge plans, and Health Care Coalition regional teams with local hospitals to ensure community readiness for an outbreak.
- Dolores County Public Health has been working closely with the private sector to ensure that all prevention recommendations are available, attainable, and sustainable for the future to both industry and business offices in Dolores County.
- Guidelines addressing prevention have been written and distributed to schools, workplaces and other essential places as outlined in the county.
- Limits have been set for non-essential travel and recommendations per “Safer at Home” guidelines.
- Dolores County Public Health has been involved with weekly meetings with members of town officials through Dove Creek Chamber, Board of County Commissioners as needed, County EM, law enforcement, and other community leaders as needed.



- Dolores County Public Health retail food inspector is contracted out through Montezuma County and is working with local businesses to implement physical distancing guidelines and other infection control best practice and Dolores County Public Health will be following up with that.
- Dolores County Public Health has a robust public information messaging system such as Nixel to all subscribers in the county and EM can send out iPAWS and will send a text message alert every cell phone in the county and NOAA radio and TV stations in our area and public alerts, social media campaigns, a Facebook page with surveillance data and recommendations, and has been attending staff and community meetings virtually to provide education in order to promote education and compliance related to physical distancing and other best practice guidelines as it relates to COVID-19. We also have been attending CDPHE, regional, and local meetings with Montezuma County response groups.
- Dolores County Public Health will be working closely with a multi-jurisdictional team to determine safe guidelines for all summer activities occurring within the county, including summer camps, recreational activities including youth sports, and any fairs or outdoor events that may or may not occur depending upon situational awareness and will be making best practice recommendations in advance.
- Dolores County Public Health is working with faith groups and other social groups to implement physical distancing and best practice guidelines to any activities occurring within the community.
- Dolores County Public Health has developed a resource list including Mental Health lists for our citizens.
- Dolores County has had sustained social distancing in place since the Stay at Home order was presented.
- If at any time from the date of the approval of this variance by the Governors office and we see a doubling of numbers of positive cases of COVID19 in any (14) fourteen day period or any numbers over 2, it will trigger restrictions to match the State restrictions at that time, and the variance will also be re-evaluated in (21) twenty-one days by the Board of Health, the County Public Health Department and Southwest Health System.

Below is the restaurant and graduation variance plan

Restaurants:

1. Dolores County has 5 restaurants, 3 in Dove Creek and 2 in Rico. They have been open to some extent with take out and drive through.
2. Encourage to continue to do business through take-out, delivery, and curbside.
3. Limit the number of customers in your dining space to 50% of your fire/building code capacity.
4. Do not allow customers to wait in lobby area or in lines outside the door for table.
 - a. Implement a reservation system.
 - b. Notify customers via text or phone call when their table is ready.



5. Post signs at entrances regarding face coverings, and post signs throughout the facility as needed to remind the customers of social distancing and proper hygiene guidelines
6. Customers are required to wear cloth face coverings in order to enter the business, and to keep their face coverings in place until they've reached their table
7. Make reasonable accommodations for vulnerable individuals who are still under the Stay at Home advisement. (e.g. seating assistance, special hours)
8. Ask customers if they are experiencing any symptoms prior to seating them in the dining area. If they are, do not allow them to enter
9. Group parties shall be limited to six members of a single household
10. Bars shall remain **closed**, including those that are part of restaurants. This also includes:
 - taverns, brewpubs, breweries, microbreweries, distillery pubs, wineries, wine tasting rooms (except for retail), special permit licensees, clubs, and other places offering alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption except restaurants as well as cigar bars
11. Implement one-way entry/exit, and directional walkways as much as possible
12. In-room dining shall follow strict physical distancing practices (6 feet)
13. Spread people/tables out so there is at least six feet distance between individuals
14. Self-serving stations shall remain **closed** (drinking stations, bulk dry, etc.)
15. Don't allow public sharing of utensils or condiment containers
16. Buffets shall have an employee serving the food, no self-serving allowed
17. Perform frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection of bathrooms and high-touch surfaces
18. Monitor employees for one of the following symptoms:
 - Cough
 - shortness of breath/difficulty breathing

or at least two of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Symptomatic employees must be excluded from the workplace

19. Employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public shall wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth
20. All other employees are encouraged to wear a non-medical cloth face covering over the nose and mouth while working, except where doing so would compromise the individual's health



21. Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. cashiers)
22. Implement touchless payment methods when possible
23. Stagger shifts if feasible to decrease employee numbers at the business

Graduation:

Class of 2020 Graduation Ceremony

Tentative Plan 4-28-2020

Ceremony Date: May 29, 2020

Ceremony Location: Soper Sports Complex

Summary:

The 2020 graduation ceremony will be held on May 29, 2020 as scheduled. The ceremony will last about 45-60 minutes. Speeches will be given by the valedictorian, salutatorian, and a guest speaker if the class chooses to secure someone for the task. Scholarships and student plans for after high school will be read,

and diplomas will be presented by Mr. Baughman and our Board. Once the ceremony is complete seniors

will exit the stage to their vehicle.

Logistics:

- There is a total of 12 graduating seniors in 2020. There could be 24-32 parents on the field. Staff and board to perform the ceremony will be 6-10 in attendance.
- Seniors will be seated in the football field bleachers with 6-8 feet of distance between them to meet social distancing minimums. To begin the prelude, all seniors will be lined up on the track and will walk to an assigned spot on the bleachers. During the presentation of diplomas, seniors may go to their parents and give them a hug and get a picture, but must not go to anyone else. Once you accept your diploma, you will return to the same spot on the bleachers. Seniors will exit one at a time to their vehicles at the close of the ceremony.
- Each senior's parents will be allowed on the field, and have a designated area to sit with the necessary social distancing. Two chairs will be set out unless a senior has step parents that will be attending the ceremony as well. No more than four chairs will be set out for each senior.
- Grandparents can attend the ceremony in their vehicles and must park on the east side of the



football field.

- All parents and grandparents will be on an approved gate list that will be at the gate so the number of people entering the complex can be monitored. The local sheriff's department will be asked to monitor the gate. Any siblings or friends who enter in family vehicles will not be allowed to be out of the vehicle during the ceremony.
- Speeches will be 5-10 minutes from the valedictorian, salutatorian, and guest speaker totaling 15-30 minutes. Someone can be asked to give the opening prayer.
- The ceremony may be streamed and/or broadcast.

Safety Concerns

- All safety precautions will be taken and state recommendations will be followed at the time of the ceremony.
- If at the time of the ceremony, masks are required everyone in attendance will be asked to have a face covering.